



City and County of the City of Chester

ANNUAL REPORT

TO THE

MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND
COUNCILLORS OF THE
CITY AND COUNTY OF
THE CITY OF CHESTER

On the Health of the City

and the

Work of the Health Department
in 1957

BY

D. F. MORGAN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health.

Together with the Report of the
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
W. B. CALDER, F.R.S.H., M.P.H.I.A.

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HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1957

Chairman:

Alderman E. E. Ashton

Deputy Chairman:

Alderman Arthur Charmley

Members:

Alderman Charles Sconce
Alderman David R. Owen
Alderman T. Price
Councillor L. Edwards
Councillor P. G. Coleman
Councillor Mary Heaney

Councillor Florence M. Grogan
Councillor H. A. A. Howell
Councillor F. V. Hedley
Councillor J. F. Leatherbarrow
Councillor Helen T. Pollard
Councillor A. E. Ainsworth

Co-opted Members:

Dr. W. Gilchrist Col. C. W. Marsden
B. A. Williams

STAFF OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health ...
Deputy Medical Officer of
Health
Assistant Medical Officer of
Health

D. F. Morgan, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

Ivy F. Fallon, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

A. McGregor, M.B., CH.B., B.A.
Resigned 15/4/57

D. P. W. Roberts, M.B., CH.B., M.R.C.S.,
L.R.C.P., D.O.R.C.O.G., D.P.H.
Appointed 15/7/57

Chief Public Health In-
spector, Food Inspector,
Factory Acts Supervision,
etc.
Deputy Chief Public Health
Inspector
District Additional Public
Health Inspectors

†*W. B. Calder F.R.S.H., M.P.H.I.A.

†*G. E. Jarvis, M.R.S.H., M.P.H.I.A.

†*R. B. Powell, M.R.S.H., M.P.H.I.A.
*L. Graham, M.R.S.H., M.P.H.I.A.
Resigned 4/3/57

†*E. T. Swift, M.R.S.H., M.P.H.I.A.

†*F. Rummens, M.R.S.H., M.P.H.I.A.

†*S. Clarke, M.R.S.H., M.P.H.I.A.
Resigned 14/2/57

Re-appointed 8/7/57

T. A. Chetwood

Appointed 5/6/57

Assistant Inspector

H. J. Hewitt, M.P.H.I.A.

Pupil Inspectors	W. Cobden J. H. Mercer Appointed 11/11/57
Superintendent Health Visitor and Non-Medical Supervisor of Midwives	Miss B. M. Long, S.R.N., S.C.M., P.H.A. CERT. (<i>Royal Coll. of Nursing</i>)
Superintendent Home Nursing Service	Miss M. H. Greenwood, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N.
Health Visitors	Mrs. M. T. Slater, S.R.N., S.C.M. Mrs. M. McGovern, S.R.N., S.C.M. Miss M. Hughes, S.R.N., S.C.M. Miss A. Vaughan Pugh, S.R.N., S.C.M. Resigned 12/1/57 Miss B. M. Hughes, S.R.N., S.C.M. Resigned 21/12/57 Miss P. Gant, S.R.N., T.B.CERT. Resigned 29/10/57 Mrs. D. Guyton, S.R.N., S.C.M. Resigned 18/3/57 Mrs. H. Harrison, S.R.N., S.C.M. Mrs. H. Regan Appointed 8/4/57 Resigned 31/7/57 Mrs. D. L. Harrison, S.R.N., S.C.M. Appointed 8/7/57
Clinic Nurse	Mrs. I. Roberts, S.R.N.
Municipal Midwives	Miss Ashton, S.R.N., S.C.M. Miss Phillips, S.C.M. Mrs. Samuels, S.C.M. Mrs. Gaulton, S.C.M. Miss F. M. Stanley, S.C.M. Mrs. M. Shickell, S.R.N., S.C.M.
Chief Clerk	R. W. Hudson
Domestic Help Organiser ...	Miss M. H. Ashley
Occupation Centre Supervsr.	Miss M. E. Chappelle

†Certificate, Royal Sanitary Institute, Meat and Food Inspection

*Certificate, Liverpool University, Meat and Food Inspection

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
ST. MARTIN'S HOUSE,
CHESTER.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The most outstanding feature of 1957 has been a struggle to keep the staff up to establishment. This has been most apparent in the professional and technical appointments—Dental Officers, Health Visitors, Public Health Inspectors, Midwives and District Nurses.

The building of our first 'purpose-built' Infant Welfare Clinic was deferred because of the urgent necessity for expanding our Occupation Centre accommodation.

Preventive medicine has formed a large part of the work of the department, and the use of multiple antigens was reviewed. 'B.C.G.' was continued and the General Practitioners took part in Polio Immunisation when supplies of vaccine became less restricted.

You considered the provision of Radio-Telephones for the Ambulance Service and ways of improving the amenities at the Ambulance Depot.

Economy has been the keynote, but we wisely reflect that it is not always the best policy to make efficiency take second place to it.

Our staff is proud of the Health Services. The impetus given to its work by your appreciation—both verbal and practical—is a measure of its enthusiasm and deserves highest praise.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

D. F. MORGAN,

Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area in acres	...	...	...	...	...	4659
Population (Registrar General's estimate)	...	...	...	...	...	59100
Number of inhabited houses	...	...	...	...	...	17147
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	£833759
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	...	£3403

VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births

		Male	Female	Total	Birth Rate per 1,000 Population
Legitimate	...	508	431	939	
Illegitimate	...	23	23	46	
Totals	...	531	454	985	16.6

Still Births

					Still Birth Rate per 1,000 (Live and Still) Births
		18	11	29	28.6

Deaths

					Death Rate per 1,000 Population
All Causes	...	334	292	626	10.5

Deaths of Infants under one year old

					Death Rate per 1,000 Live Births
All Infants	...	14	9	23	23.3
					Death Rate per 1,000 legitimate Live Births
Legitimate Infants		14	9	23	24.5
					Death Rate per 1,000 illegitimate Live Births
Illegitimate Infants		—	—	—	0.0

Deaths from Certain Causes

					Death Rate per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births
All Maternal Causes		—	—	—	0.0
					Death Rate per 1,000 Population
Respiratory Tuberculosis	5	1	6		0.1
					Death Rate per 1,000 Population
Other forms of „	1	—	1		0.016
					Death Rate per 1,000 Population
Cancer	...	65	49	114	1.93

BIRTH RATE

The Birth Rate per 1,000 population was 16.6.

Comparative figures are as follows:—

England and Wales	...	...	...	...	...	...	16.1
Chester (area comparability factor (0.94) applied)	...	...	...	...	...	...	15.6

Still Births allocated to the City numbered 29, giving a rate of 28.6 per 1,000 total (live and still) births. This figure compared with 26.1 in 1956.

INFANT MORTALITY

There were 23 deaths in infants under one year, compared with 36 in 1956. The mortality rate per 1,000 live births was 23.3 compared with 35.7 in 1956.

Comparative figures are as follows:—

England and Wales	...	...	...	...	...	...	23.0
Chester (area comparability factor (1.10) applied)	...	...	...	...	...	...	25.63

The actual causes of death in these 23 cases were as follows:—

Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Premature Births	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Congenital Malformation, Birth Injuries & Infantile Disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Atelectasis	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Asphyxia	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
All other causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	3

GENERAL DEATH RATE

There were 626 deaths in Chester residents, giving a death rate of 10.5 per 1,000 population, which, with 1954, is the lowest recorded.

Comparative figures are as follows:—

England and Wales	...	...	...	...	...	...	11.5
Chester (area comparability factor (1.10) applied)	...	...	...	...	...	...	11.5

There was one death from Poliomyelitis.

405 deaths or 64% of the total deaths occurred in the age group 65 years and over.

Heart disease accounted for 205 deaths and other circulatory conditions for 29 deaths.

Bronchitis was the cause of death in 28 cases, pneumonia in 24 and other respiratory conditions in 9 cases.

There were 6 deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis and 1 death from other causes of tuberculosis.

There were no deaths from Diphtheria, Measles or Whooping Cough.

Cancer accounted for 114 deaths, of which 70 were in the age group 65 years and over, and 18 were of the lung or bronchus.

Deaths from Cancer of Lung and Bronchus

	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
Total No. of Deaths ...	646	538	521	614	680	702	626
Number of Deaths from Cancer of Lung and Bronchus ...	16	21	20	29	25	24	18
Percentage...	2.48	3.72	3.84	4.72	3.68	3.41	2.89

VITAL STATISTICS OF DISTRICT FOR 1957 AND PREVIOUS YEARS

Year	Estimated Population	Births	Birth Rate	Deaths	Death Rate	Deaths under One Year	Rate per 1,000 Live Births
1941	47500	748	15.7	608	12.8	62	82.1
1942	46570	759	16.3	566	12.1	52	68.5
1943	45410	770	16.9	576	12.6	41	53.2
1944	43880	825	18.8	579	13.2	56	67.8
1945	44430	807	18.1	604	13.5	64	79.3
1946	46460	917	19.7	598	12.8	54	58.8
1947	47190	1046	22.1	661	14.0	84	81.2
1948	47190	863	18.2	575	12.2	32	37.1
1949	47470	886	18.6	578	12.1	29	32.7
1950	48680	795	16.4	564	11.5	16	20.1
1951	47600	780	16.4	646	13.5	33	42.3
1952	47900	854	17.8	538	11.2	19	22.2
1953	48200	831	17.2	521	10.8	27	32.4
1954	58100	954	16.4	614	10.5	25	26.2
1955	58500	934	15.9	680	11.7	15	16.1
1956	58800	1006	17.1	702	11.9	36	35.7
1957	59100	985	16.6	626	10.5	23	23.5

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

736 cases of measles and 105 of whooping cough were notified. The figures for 1956 were 35 and 101 respectively. Scarlet fever cases numbered 48, compared with 50 in 1956.

Diphtheria—again **no** cases were notified. The last case in Chester occurred in 1951 in hospital.

Sonne Dysentery. An outbreak of Sonne Dysentery occurred in a children's nursery, which necessitated the closure of the nursery for some time. In spite of stringent measures, the disease showed a tendency to recur. Redecoration of the nursery and the use of modern antibiotics and antiseptics eventually brought the outbreak to an end, without any case being fatal or suffering severe disability.

Sonne Dysentery is well known for its rapid and explosive spread in closed communities, and I would pay warm tribute to the matron and her staff for their patience, hard work and loyal co-operation, which had the desired effect of stopping the outbreak.

Food Poisoning. The number of cases notified was 30.

An outbreak of Typhi Murium infection in a hospital ward was traced to a carrier. Immediate and far-reaching measures were put into force, but altogether eight of the Nursing Staff were affected. Specialist treatment was, of course, available, and the outbreak was confined.

The serious effect of such a disease is appreciated when it is realised that no carrier of enteric or salmonella infection should consider taking up nursing as a profession. Such persons would always be potential danger to their patients.

In the course of investigations, seven unnotified cases were discovered. Only one case was fatal, but it was thought that death was due to a concurrent cause.

A party from Lancashire were taken ill in that area shortly after having eaten a meal in Chester. The pathologist reported his findings and examination of the food in Chester revealed a similar type of organism. Steps were immediately taken to prevent further spread, with apparent success. Similarly, with cases reported in the City area, it has occasionally been possible to suggest or even, with co-operation, to trace the suspected food elsewhere. Where shellfish has been suspect, it is relatively easy to ascertain the source.

[illegible]

PUBLIC HEALTH (TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1952

The total of new cases notified was 38, as detailed in the following table:

TUBERCULOSIS

AGE PERIODS	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1—	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2—	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5—	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10—	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
15—	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
20—	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
25—	4	6	1	0	0	1	0	0
35—	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
45—	5	1	0	1	3	0	0	0
55—	3	1	0	0	2	0	0	0
65—	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
75—	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Totals	23	13	1	1	5	1	1	0

An account of Preventive and After-Care work is given under Prevention of Illness, Care and After-Care, later in the report.

VENEREAL DISEASE

Clinics are held at Chester Royal Infirmary as follows:—

Males—

Wednesdays, 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Saturdays, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Females—

Thursdays, 4-30 p.m. to 7-30 p.m.

The following shows the number of attendances by Chester patients during the past five years.

	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
Syphilis	5	5	9	6	6
Gonorrhoea	12	3	7	11	11
Conditions other than V.D.	43	28	42	59	64
	<u>60</u>	<u>36</u>	<u>58</u>	<u>76</u>	<u>81</u>

Warning must be given of the dangers of incomplete treatment. It is so easy to obtain drugs and antibiotics outside the clinics and to have incomplete treatment which relieves the initial symptoms of Venereal Disease (but does not cure it), that there is a real danger of the disease lighting up again in future years in much more serious and tragic forms.

I am pleased to report a better and closer liaison with the V.D. Clinics than has hitherto been possible.

Efforts were made to trace contacts and where case histories have been given, it has been possible—even with scanty information—to secure the co-operation of the patient or contact. I would congratulate the staff on its successes, even when it seemed impossible, on the information given, to trace people suffering from V.D.

LABORATORY SERVICES

The Pathological Departments of the Chester City Hospital, the Royal Infirmary and the Medical Research Council Laboratory at Birkenhead have continued to examine all types of specimens sent either by general practitioners or the Health Department.

There is excellent co-operation between the Laboratories and the Health Department.

SERVICES PROVIDED UNDER NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACTS

1. CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN (Section 22)

(i) Expectant and Nursing Mothers

The possibility of a Consultant Antenatal Clinic, attended by Doctors of Consultant status was considered. Here it was felt that the facilities offered by the City Hospital were adequate to deal with the position.

(ii) Infant Welfare

The following Infant Welfare Clinics are held weekly, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.:—

Monday: St. Martin's House (Central Clinic)

Tuesday: Saltney (Institute, Hope Street) and Hoole (55, Hoole Road)

Wednesday: Blacon (Institute) and Boughton (Civil Defence H.Q.)

Thursday: St. Martin's House

Attendances at Blacon Clinic have been increasing with the growth of this suburb. Efforts were made to find alternative accommodation for the Infant Welfare Clinic there, and the question of building a new clinic was considered. All the clinic premises in Chester have been adapted—sometimes with scant success—for infant welfare purposes. It is not difficult to picture the resulting cold, draughty, noisy premises with steep stairs and dark, cramped rooms.

It is with some reasonable anticipation, therefore, that we look forward to the time when a municipal clinic—new and purpose-built—will be available at Blacon.

Attendances at the various clinics were made throughout the year as follows:—

ST. MARTIN'S HOUSE INFANT WELFARE CENTRE

	(1956)	1957
(a) By children under one year of age	2105	2249
(b) By children between the ages of one and five years	340	478
Consultations with Medical Officer:—		
(a) Children under one year, visits	688	673
(b) Children, one to five years, visits	137	133

SALTNEY INFANT WELFARE CENTRE

	(1956)	1957
(a) By children under one year of age	739	1097
(b) By children between the ages of one and five years	406	216
Consultations with Medical Officer:—		
(a) Children under one year, visits	251	260
(b) Children, one to five years, visits	96	62

BLACON INFANT WELFARE CENTRE

	(1956)	1957
(a) By children under one year of age	1396	1585
(b) By children between the ages of one and five years	266	216
Consultations with Medical Officer:—		
(a) Children under one year, visits	262	500
(b) Children, one to five years, visits	72	123

HOOLE INFANT WELFARE CENTRE

	(1956)	1957
(a) By children under one year of age	1631	1694
(b) By children between the ages of one and five years	571	435
Consultations with Medical Officer:—		
(a) Children under one year, visits	537	580
(b) Children, one to five years, visits	56	74

BOUGHTON INFANT WELFARE CENTRE

	(1956)	1957
(a) By children under one year of age	1106	1287
(b) By children between the ages of one and five years	239	270
Consultations with Medical Officer:—		
(a) Children under one year, visits	225	287
(b) Children, one to five years, visits	39	60

(iii) Premature Infants

The Premature Baby Unit at the City Hospital was able to cope with most babies below 5½lbs. so that few were nursed at home. Such nursing equipment as was necessary in the home was available on loan from the District Nurses' Home.

By arrangement with the Physician-in-Charge, the Health Visitors attended at the Premature Baby Unit of the Hospital. Staff shortages prevented as full attendance as would have been liked. On discharge home, Premature Babies were visited by the Health Visitors.

Excellent co-operation was maintained between the Department and the Premature Baby Unit of the City Hospital.

(iv) Supply of Dried Milks, etc. (Welfare Foods)

On 9th August, 1954, the sale of Welfare Foods, formerly a function of the Ministry of Food, was taken over by the Local Health Authority, the premises transferred to Bishop Graham's School, Princess Street, and later to Ffolliott House, in Northgate Street.

National Dried Milk and all Welfare Foods and nutrients under the Government Welfare Foods Scheme were available at all the Infant Welfare Clinics. Many other kinds of Dried Milk Foods and nutrients were also available at the Clinics, and the Council's scheme provided for the free issue of these to necessitous cases.

Two full-time Clerks were employed and they, together with the Staff of the Department, carried out the necessary clerical and recording work. The Centre at Ffolliott House was open daily from 9 a.m. to 5-30 p.m. and from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturdays.

Two Distribution Centres were open in Blacon.

It should be noted that, because of shortage of staff and restricted accommodation, it is not possible to permit the sale of Welfare Food to the general public at Infant Welfare Clinics. We manage, however, to make these foods available for parents who attend the Clinic regularly.

(v) Dental Care

Under the new priority scheme, the priority classes may attend at the School Dental Clinic on any Wednesday afternoon. A full service is provided and all treatment is free.

(a) Numbers provided with Dental Care:

	Examined	Needing Treat- ment	Treated	Made Dentally Fit
Expectant and Nursing Mothers	89	77	77	55
Children under five	162	145	145	145

(b) Forms of Dental Treatment provided:

	Scalings and Gum Treatment	Fillings	Silver Nitrate Treatment	Crowns or Inlays	Extractions	General Anaesthetics	Full Upper or Lower	Partial Upper or Lower	Radiographs
Expectant and Nursing Mothers	12	108	—	—	120	16	23	3	1
Children under five	—	57	31	—	226	111	—	—	—

(vi) Institutional Provision for Mothers and Children

The Maternity Department of the City Hospital provides the necessary accommodation for a wide area.

The Paediatric Department at the City Hospital has accommodation for marasmic and ailing babies and premature infants.

Healthy children up to the age of three are admitted to Kingston House and children over the age of three to Eaton Park View, Wrexham Road, both being administered by the Child Care Committee of the City Council. Periodic examinations and examinations on admission and discharge are carried out by the Medical Officers of the Health Department.

CARE OF UNMARRIED MOTHERS AND THEIR BABIES

Where application for accommodation in Voluntary Mother and Baby Homes was made, the Chester and District Moral Welfare Association enquired into the case and found accommodation in a Home. The Council contributed towards the cost, the normal period being from six weeks before to six weeks after the expected confinement, with the possibility of extension where necessary in the interests of mother and baby.

The cases were followed up at home by the Health Visitors.

Under the Scheme, five unmarried mothers were assisted during the year, compared with four in 1956. These were brought to the notice of the Health Committee by the Chester and District Moral Welfare Association and I would like to pay tribute to the Outdoor Worker for the work she has done in investigating and arranging for the accommodation of these cases, as well as for other Chester cases not assisted by the Corporation.

It is not an easy matter to find vacancies in the right kind of Mother and Baby Home, and still less to interview putative fathers to try to get them to accept their responsibilities. Yet in all the cases assisted by the Corporation investigations of this nature were carried out and, where necessary, the expectant mother was advised to apply for an Affiliation Order.

NURSES' ACT

Two agencies are licensed under the above Act for the provision of Private Nurses.

NURSING HOMES

At the end of the year, no Nursing Homes were registered under the Public Health Act, 1936.

NURSERY AND CHILD MINDERS (REGULATION) ACT, 1948

Three premises are registered under this Act. Visits are made by the Medical Officers and Health Visitors as occasion demands.

2. MIDWIFERY (Section 23)

Antenatal Care in Relation to Toxaemia

Following an Joint Representative Meeting of the professional members of the three bodies concerned, on 26th June, 1956, the question of antenatal care and a clinic was discussed by the Local Medical Committee, on 5th February, 1957, who asked the Medical Officer of Health to report to the Local Health Authority that it was not in favour of an Antenatal Clinic as envisaged. The Local Medical Committee's representatives on the Health Committee were to report the final decision of the Health Authority on this matter.

Antenatal Care of women to be confined at the City Hospital is carried out at the Hospital's Clinic.

For patients to be confined at home, there is no Local Authority Clinic, but Midwives visit them at home. In addition, they attend the sessions in their own Medical Practitioner's Surgery, for tuition in the Hygiene of Pregnancy, exercises and demonstrations in Infant Care.

City Hospital			Antenatal Clinic	Postnatal Clinic
Total number of City Patients	...	...	1083	375
Total number of attendances	...	...	4068	468

The Chester City Council employs six Full-time Municipal Midwives for Domiciliary work, under the supervision of a non-medical Supervisor (who is also the Superintendent Health Visitor).

All Midwives are trained in the administration of Gas and Air Analgesia and also in the use of the newer Trilene apparatus, of which both types of equipment were in service.

Close co-operation was maintained between the Municipal Midwives and the doctors undertaking Domiciliary Midwifery. The Medical Aid Scheme provided for adequate medical attendance at the confinement, the Doctors' fees being paid either under their arrangements with the Executive Council, or by the Corporation (if another Doctor had to be called).

82 cases were so attended.

The City Hospital referred to the Health Department those cases who wished to book confinements at the Hospital, but did not fall into one of the necessitous groups, and, where home circumstances permitted, arrangements were made for confinement at home. Conversely, where home circumstances rendered home confinement undesirable, the case was referred to the City Hospital.

The nation-wide shortage of Midwives was felt and difficulties were experienced in keeping the staff up to establishment. Extension of the period of service after retiring age and the offer of housing accommodation in necessitous cases have helped to keep the Midwifery Service going.

Each Midwife is equipped with, and trained in, the use of Blood Pressure Apparatus for the early detection of the Toxaemias of Pregnancy.

332 confinements were attended by the Municipal Midwives as Midwives and 27 as Maternity Nurses.

Statistics

No. of cases attended as Midwives	...	...	...	...	332
No. of cases attended as Maternity Nurses	...	...	...	...	27
No. of antenatal visits	...	...	...	...	2424
No. of daily nursing visits	...	...	...	...	5761
No. of cases receiving analgesia:—					
(a) Trilene	...	...	...	...	149
(b) Gas and Air	...	...	...	...	55
Doctors called in by Midwives	...	...	...	...	75

Notification of Births

Total number of births notified	...	...	...	...	1942
Cases attended and delivered by the doctors	...	...	...	...	27
Cases attended in Nursing Homes	...	...	...	...	110
Cases attended and delivered by midwives	...	...	...	...	332
Cases attended in Hospitals	...	...	...	...	1610
No. of Still Births	...	...	...	...	56

Of the 332 births attended by Midwives, in 82 cases Medical Aid was required. The necessity arose from the following causes:—

Lacerated perinaeum	...	...	...	...	...	25
Haemorrhage	...	...	...	...	...	7
Illness of child	...	...	...	...	...	5
Complication before labour	...	...	...	...	...	(21)
Complication during labour	...	...	...	...	...	10
Complication during 'lying-in' period	...	...	...	...	...	8
Temperature	...	...	...	...	...	1
Abnormality of child	...	...	...	...	...	1
Stillbirth	...	...	...	...	...	5
Prematurity	...	...	...	...	...	20
Total ...						82

Ophthalmia Neonatorum

No cases were notified during the year.

3. HEALTH VISITING (Section 24)

Nine full-time Health Visitor-School Nurses are employed, and a Superintendent who is also Supervisor of Midwives.

The duties of the staff are divided into half School work and half Health Visitors' work. Under the latter, there were various Clinics to attend—Immunisations, B.C.G., Infant Welfare, Sunlight, Dental Anaesthetics and

visits to Hospitals—while the visits to homes were made for many special functions in addition to the usual visits under Maternal and Infant Welfare and Care of the Sick; special visits included:—

Aged, Sick and Infirm
Tuberculosis
Mental Defectives
Cases of Mental Illness
Problem Families
V.D. Contacts
Cancer Research

Special Surveys, such as:—

- (1) National Survey of Nutrition
- (2) Perinatal Mortality Survey

In the cases of children discharged after In-Patient Treatment, the Hospitals sent to the Health Department copies of the reports to the General Medical Practitioners and following-up visits were made by the Health Visitor-School Nurses.

The following visits were made by the Staff (excluding work done by them under the School Health Service):—

	1956	1957
Primary Birth Visits	987	942
Subsequent Visits to Infants	4743	3786
Visits to Pre-School Children	7570	6383
Visits to Expectant Mothers	288	198
Other Visits	2428	1741
Visits with Midwives	17	15
Cases of Tuberculosis (Visits)	519	440

The fall in visits is mainly due to difficulty in maintaining a full staff of Health Visitors. More Clinic duties were necessary, and this detracted from the time available for Home Visiting, though, of course, Clinic work is more efficient.

4. HOME NURSING SERVICE (Section 25)

The District Nurses' Home is affiliated to the Queen's Institute of District Nursing, and provides residence for the Superintendent and six District Nurses. Owing to recruitment difficulties, it has been necessary to appoint some Nurses not resident at the Home, but who take their turn of night duty.

No regular Night Shift is worked, but a rota of Evening and Emergency Duty is done by all Nursing Staff. The total staff employed at the end of the year was the Superintendent, six full-time District Nurses and two part-time Nurses.

No special provision of staff was made for the **Home Nursing of Sick Children**, and none of the staff specialised in this branch of the work. It is the practice, however, to give priority to sick children in order to relieve the burden on the parents and to educate them in this work.

Nursing equipment is available and during the year 218 articles were on loan or hire.

From the analysis of the table following, it will be seen that 640 cases out of 1,294 were over 65, and they received 17,144 visits out of a total of 29,120 (i.e., 49% of Patients and 59% of Visits) and they received on the average 25 visits each. The appointment of a Geriatrician by the Regional Hospital Board was necessary because of the shortage of beds for Chronic Sick and Aged. This is reflected in the figures given above.

It is thought that a considerable number of patients were nursed at home who, but for this Service, would have been admitted to hospital. Thus, in one month, out of a total of 231 patients visited, there were thought to be 84 nursed at home with the help of District Nurses:—

Medical Cases under 65 years	...	...	...	...	...	30
Surgical Cases under 65 years	...	...	...	...	...	16
Medical Cases over 65 years	...	...	...	...	...	29
Surgical Cases over 65 years	...	...	...	...	...	9
						<hr/>
						84
						<hr/>

Obviously the amount of Medical Care and Nursing attention which can be given at home is not so concentrated as that available in hospital, and there is no clear-cut dividing line between patients who need hospital beds and those who can stay at home without undue risk. Much depends on home circumstances and the number of hospital beds available. Where the hospitals do not satisfy all the calls made upon them, it will always be the lot of the Local Health Authority to make up for deficiencies.

HOME NURSING SERVICE

DISTRICTS		Medical	Surgical	Infectious Disease	Tuber- culosis	Maternal	Injections, Others	Aged 65 & over on First Visit	Cases receiving more	
									Aged than 24 under 5	Visits
NEWTON	Cases Visits	78 1593	16 692	1 5	1 18	1 12	53 930	90 2348	7 28	33 1864
BOUGHTON	Cases Visits	88 1608	28 723	— —	1 19	— —	80 1556	110 2505	6 70	39 1854
SALTNEY	Cases Visits	81 1598	27 545	1 2	2 21	2 9	94 1809	94 2518	9 47	35 2019
HANDBRIDGE	Cases Visits	48 2033	14 322	— —	— —	1 1	76 1856	68 2351	5 41	36 2487
BLACON	Cases Visits	39 634	14 438	3 10	2 26	6 73	69 1206	36 1242	18 102	20 974
GARDEN LANE	Cases Visits	58 1303	16 472	— —	2 59	1 5	62 1340	76 1554	— —	31 1519
CENTRAL	Cases Visits	71 1652	17 889	— —	2 415	1 6	47 527	77 2248	4 26	31 1937
HOOLE	Cases Visits	77 1791	29 650	— —	2 66	— —	83 2206	89 2378	7 47	41 2470
TOTALS	Cases Visits	540 12212	161 4731	5 17	12 624	12 106	504 11430	640 17144	56 361	266 15124

The total number of Cases and Visits in 1956 were 1,290 and 28,110 respectively.
 Number of cases on books, 1-1-57, carried over from 1956 189
 Number of new cases ... 1105
 Number of cases on books at 31-12-57 ... 235

Of the 1,294 cases attended, 640 were aged 65 or over and, of the total visits (29,120), 17,144 were paid to these.
 The average number of nurses employed full time was ... 7
 The average number of hours worked by each daily was ... 7½
 The average number of hours worked by each per week was 46

5. VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION (Section 26)

The following immunological facilities are provided by the Council:—

- (1) Vaccination against Smallpox
- (2) Immunisation against Diphtheria
- (3) Immunisation against Whooping Cough
- (4) B.C.G. Vaccination against Tuberculosis
- (5) Vaccination against Tetanus
- (6) Vaccination against Poliomyelitis
- (7) Vaccination against Asian Influenza

(1) Vaccination against Smallpox

Because of the excessive wastage in holding stocks of vaccine lymph at the Health Department, all cases requesting Vaccination are referred to their own General Medical Practitioners. International Certificates of Vaccination were authenticated by the Medical Officer of Health. In emergency (i.e., on the threat of possible contact with cases of Smallpox), all the staff of the Department are offered vaccination.

Ages	Number Vaccinated	Number Re-Vaccinated
Under one year	146	—
One year :	161	1
2—4 years	43	9
5—14 years	40	16
15 years and over	27	98
Totals	417	124

(2) Immunisation against Diphtheria

Parents are given the option of having this done by their own General Medical Practitioner or of attending the Clinics. Children of pre-school age are immunised at the Infant Welfare Clinics (q.v.), and school children receive their injections and reinforcing doses at the end of the School Medical Inspections.

Records of these—and all—immunisations are kept in the Department and are transferred on change of address.

The Table on the following page shows the number of children immunised against Diphtheria.

(3) Immunisation against Whooping Cough

This is available on request from the patient's own Doctor or at the Infant Welfare Clinics, and is usually—though not necessarily—given in conjunction with Diphtheria Immunisation. Three injections are necessary.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Age in Years 31st Dec., of the corres- ponding year.	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	Total inocu- lated 1943-1957
0	10	...	16	14	18	123	109	39	43	89	89	Age under 1 year
1	221	184	230	243	288	191	378	284	217	233	215	329	284	458	345	Age 1-4 years 2169
2	113	80	102	108	84	294	140	74	58	70	32	101	97	114	118	
3	63	37	37	40	39	78	35	24	21	39	19	50	29	58	66	
4	54	32	29	31	44	55	30	57	27	18	20	36	28	51	20	
5	88	174	118	73	84	96	61	163	48	50	76	88	30	104	59	Age 5-9 yrs Completed: 1953 1957...156 1952 or earlier ...150 3072
6	59	61	87	54	54	60	41	58	15	33	78	53	17	221	100	
7	62	28	28	44	17	51	6	17	2	20	21	16	11	92	39	
8	42	10	15	58	11	20	...	6	2	20	2	6	3	22	9	
9	43	11	12	49	12	6	2	6	3	10	1	3	1	7	7	Age 10-14 yrs Completed: 1953-1957... 24 1952 or earlier ...203 3184
10	36	9	12	46	6	9	6	5	1	5	...	2	3	12	4	
11	30	9	2	45	13	6	8	12	3	5	...	2	9	19	15	
12	21	6	3	36	5	4	6	2	...	...	3	1	6	19	12
13	29	2	...	26	7	3	2	3	Age 15 years and over 2758 GRAND TOTAL 11272
14	28	5	2	75	2	3	4	12	5	...	...	...	...	3	1
15 and over	18	...	...	...	15	3	2	...	...	...	...	...	5	1	...
Total each Year	907	648	677	928	691	879	737	734	420	626	576	726	566	1270	887	
Re- Inoculations	1987	955	609	1023	786	698	676	965	893	1044	1563	1090	Total Re-Inoculation 12289

(4) B.C.G. Vaccination against Tuberculosis

In accordance with the approved scheme, vaccination with B.C.G. against Tuberculosis was offered to all pupils at school in the City between their 13th and 14th birthdays. 518 were tested and, where necessary, vaccinated intradermally with B.C.G. Very few abnormal reactions were reported.

As the scheme is continuous—year after year—the effect of this measure in reducing the incidence of ‘adult’ Pulmonary Tuberculosis will gradually become apparent in the years to come. It is noted, however, that statistically the results have been good in countries where B.C.G. Vaccination has been adopted for some little time. Many factors may be given as the cause of the diminishing incidence of T.B., but it would be unwise not to adopt B.C.G.—or any other satisfactory procedure—in this country, which might lessen the distressing incidence of Tuberculosis.

Reciprocal arrangements were made for the vaccination of Cheshire County Pupils at Chester Schools, and City Pupils at Schools in the County.

No. of Pupils tested	...	...	...	...	...	...	518
No. of these Mantoux Positive	...	...	...	...	...	...	122
No. of these Mantoux Negative	...	...	...	...	...	...	396
No. given B.C.G. Vaccination	...	...	...	...	...	...	396

The Medical Officers of the Authority who carried out the Mantoux testing, and subsequent vaccination, attended a course of special instruction therein.

(5) Anti-Tetanus Immunisation

The combination of a vaccine against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus (lock jaw) has proved beneficial and, in spite of the relatively few cases of Tetanus the use of this ‘triple Antigen’ has a vogue.

Certainly in no disease more than in Tetanus is prevention better and more worth while than cure—especially as the cure of established Tetanus is extremely chancy.

The Triple Antigen is available to Doctors in the City on request or may be given at the Infant Welfare Clinics. The purpose of the combination is to avoid injections over and above those already necessary for protection against Diphtheria and Whooping Cough.

(6) Poliomyelitis Vaccination

The scheme for Poliomyelitis was further expanded to include other age groups and selected persons.

Sufficient vaccine was available for all Medical Practitioners in the City to use the vaccine, though priority lists were still carefully followed.

Imported Vaccine added a complication to an already complicated recording system, as British Vaccine was not sufficient to meet the immediate demand.

At the end of 1957 the position was:—

No. registered for immunisation	...	...	...	...	2525
No. who had two injections	...	...	...	...	1332
No. who had one injection	...	...	...	...	261
No. awaiting	...	...	...	...	932

Notifications of and deaths from Poliomyelitis during the past years were as follows:—

Year	No. of Paralytic Cases	No. of Non-Paralytic Cases	Total	Deaths
1950	5	1	6	0
1951	1	2	3	0
1952	2	0	2	0
1953	9	1	10	0
1954	2	1	3	1
1955	5	1	6	1
1956	5	1	6	0
1957	3	0	3	1

(7) Asian Type Influenza

A certain amount of Influenza Vaccine was available for vaccination against the Asian Type of Influenza. This was used to immunise those staff and persons whose duty made them particularly susceptible to catch the disease. Some reactions were noted, mainly of mild constitutional disturbance.

Antigens generally

The Committee considered the provision of Combined Antigens in relation to the risk of precipitating paralysis in Poliomyelitis Infection. All Doctors in the City were informed of the Antigens which would in future be available to them, in the light of this knowledge.

6. AMBULANCE SERVICE (Section 27)

The City Ambulance Service also operates a service by agreement for contiguous parts of the Counties of Cheshire and Flintshire.

The Staff consists of an Officer-in-Charge, 15 Driver/Attendants and one Clerk/Telephonist.

I am pleased to report that better co-operation was maintained with the Hospitals, so that long ambulance journeys which should have been undertaken by public transport, have not been so frequent. Ministry of Health Circulars have emphasised that transport should not be expected because a patient has luggage, nor should relatives be called to travel with the patient to the exclusion of other patients.

Mention must be made of the fact that, since the introduction of a system of reminders, the number of useless Ambulance Journeys has fallen to a minimum. There will always, I suppose, be a 'hard-core' of people who demand their money's worth and ask for Ambulances when they are not really necessary but, on the other hand, in spite of thousands of calls on our vehicles, very few indeed are redundant. This is due to the care with which both the Doctors and the Hospitals (through their Almoners as Transport Officers) use the Service. Our warm thanks are paid to them therefore.

It will be noted that the total mileage run by the Ambulances is increasing year by year.

Year	Total Miles	Total Number of Patients Carried
1951	64,685	7,662
1952	64,221	7,903
1953	66,065	10,600
1954	73,250	15,753
1955	82,396	17,408
1956	83,227	19,766
1957	86,554	19,871

Vehicles

The periodic maintenance of the vehicles by the Transport Department has resulted in a better standard of upkeep and reliability than was possible hitherto, and credit is also due to the Ambulance Staff for their part in the care and maintenance of the vehicles.

Again the petrol supplies for the Service were considered: the possibility of rehousing the Ambulance Depot at some larger and more convenient site made it expedient to defer consideration of these problems until the future became more definite.

A demonstration of Radio Telephones was well attended in October, 1957, and it was decided to gather information from the various adjacent Local Authorities who had been operating such systems.

The table following gives particulars of the work carried out during the financial year ended 31st March, 1958.

AMBULANCE SERVICE—Year ended 31st March, 1958

Authority	JOURNEYS		PATIENTS CARRIED								MILEAGE	
	A.	S. O. Total (1) (2)	(3)		(4)		(5)		(6)	(7)	(8)	
			Stretcher	Total	Sitting	Total	Accident and Emergency					
							A.	S. Total				A.	S. Total	O. (3 &4)
City	2205	3138 759 5343	2134	—	2134 7278	7300	14578	594	1 595 7723	16712	24684 40583	6731 65267
Cheshire ...	158	115 — 273	550	4	554 256	2157	2413	245	1 246 2194	2967	8451 10298	5490 18749
Flintshire ..	103	67 — 170	79	1	80 24	66	90	24	2 26 —	170	944 489	— 1433
Other	5	3 — 8	6	2	8 3	11	14	1 —	1 —	22	900 205	— 1105
Totals	2471	3323 759 5794	2769	7	2776 7561	9534	17095	864	4 868 9911	19871	34979 51575	12221 86554

NOTE: A.—Ambulance; S.—Sitting Case Vehicle; O.—Occupation Centre.

Column 1 includes Column 2; Columns 3 and 4 includes Columns 5 and 6; Column 7 includes Column 8.

7. PREVENTION OF ILLNESS, CARE AND AFTER-CARE

(Section 28)

(i) Tuberculosis

The Assistant Chest Physician of the Regional Hospital Board at the City Hospital is employed on one session per week for Preventive and After Care Work. B.C.G. Vaccinations were done at the Chest Clinic.

The B.C.G. Scheme for vaccination of School Children was started during 1955. Details are given under the appropriate section.

A system of weekly cross-notification between the Health Department and the Chest Clinic (City Hospital) ensures continuity of Preventive measures. There was close liaison between the Chest Clinic and the Health Department. One Health Visitor is appointed to attend at the Clinic and to visit Tuberculosis Patients in their homes. A great improvement in the liaison between the two centres is apparent.

I would like to thank the Doctors and Staff of the Clinic for their great help during the year. Preventive Tuberculosis work has been enhanced and has assumed a more concrete and purposeful form. It was easier also to assess the relative needs for rehousing of Tuberculosis Families and much greater activity in this field was possible.

Residential After Care at Wrenbury Hall (County Council) and convalescence were provided in certain cases.

Home Nursing Equipment was available on loan, and the Council has provided a Garden Shelter in one case.

No. receiving B.C.G. Vaccination through Chest Clinic (including infants, 350)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	470
No. of visits to patients by Health Visiting Staff	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	547
No. of patients assisted in T.B. Colonies	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
No. of new contacts (City) examined at Chest Clinic	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	160
No. of these found to have Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4

The Assistant Medical Officer of Health attended a special course on B.C.G. Vaccination.

Contacts of patients notified as dying from Tuberculosis are investigated in the same way as those notified during life. Employment conditions are investigated in all notified cases and there is liaison between the Chest Clinic and the Medical Officer of Health from this aspect.

Free Milk. This year commenced a scheme which provided fresh milk, free of charge, to patients in necessitous circumstances.

(ii) Blind Persons

The Chester and District Blind Welfare Society give the following data:

	On Register		New Cases		Deaths	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Blind ...	36	60	6	14	5	4
Partially Sighted	4	10	2	3	—	1

A.—Follow up of Registered Blind and Partially Sighted Persons

	Cause of Disability			
	Cataract	Glaucoma	Retrolental Fibroplasia	Other
(i) No. of cases registered during year in respect of which para. 7(c) of Forms B.D.8 recommends:				
(a) No treatment ...	1	2	—	8
(b) Treatment (Medical Surgical or Optical)	7	4	—	—
(ii) Number of cases at (i) (b) above which on follow-up action have received treatment	2	3	—	1

B.—Ophthalmia Neonatorum

(i) Total number of cases notified during the year	Nil.
(ii) Number of cases in which :—	
a. Vision lost	
b. Vision impaired	Nil.
c. Treatment continuing at end of year	

The number of children on the register totals four. One attends a Special School for the Blind and one attends a Special School for the Partially-Sighted.

(iii) Epileptics and Spastics

Epileptic and Spastic children of school age are dealt with under the Education Acts.

One adult epileptic is maintained at a Colony by the Welfare Committee. Four adult spastics are on the register, two of whom attend a handicrafts class and are transported by Ambulance.

(iv) Illness Generally—Prevention and Care

The following local health authority services cater for cases of illness at home:—

- (a) Health Visitors
- (b) District Nurses
- (c) Domestic Helps

Nursing Equipment on hire is available from the Superintendent of the District Nurses' Home (Chester 20804), and also from some Voluntary Organisations in the City. A small rental is charged for articles hired, but in necessitous cases this may be reduced.

Altogether 218 articles were loaned by the Authority under this scheme (208 in 1956).

The Health Visitors paid 1,968 visits to cases of illness at home (2,428 in 1956), and liaison with the hospitals has been enhanced by their reports on the home circumstances of patients about to be discharged.

Smoking and Lung Cancer

The Circular on Lung Cancer and Cigarette Smoking was considered, and a scheme to publicise the information was started.

Posters were displayed in Clinics and Offices, and leaflets were distributed by the Health Visiting Staff. Owing to shortage of staff, it was not possible to pursue the policy of giving special talks in schools, though the smoking 'habit' is easiest controlled before a real habit has formed.

8. DOMESTIC HELPS (Section 29).

Twelve full-time and one part-time Domestic Helps and one Organiser were employed. One Special Help, for Tuberculosis families, was appointed temporarily and subsequently retained on the staff. Because so many elderly sick people live alone, a great strain was put on the staff and, in many cases, an almost impossible situation was relieved by the kindness of neighbours. It will be remembered that sons and daughters

have sometimes great difficulty in looking after aged sick parents when the house is small or the housewife goes—or has to go—out to work. An ageing population will of necessity make greater and greater demands on the Chronic Sick Hospital Accommodation as years go on. We have felt the pinch early in Chester, and the prospect is gloomy indeed.

The number of hours devoted to the Care of the Aged Infirm and Chronic Sick has shown a marked increase this year. Nearly 79% of the time has been given to this group, compared with 52% in 1956. Similar high demands on the Service were found in 1955 (80%), 1954 (90%), 1953 (60%), 1952 (80%) and 1951 (74%). There is no doubt that, had hospital accommodation been available, these figures would have been materially reduced.

Type of Case	No of Cases	Hours Worked
(a) Acute Illness	30	3103
(b) Maternity	23	1480
(c) Tuberculosis	1	63
(d) Aged, Infirm and Chronic Sick	80	17974
(e) Mental Illness and Mental Deficiency	4	228
	<hr/> 138	<hr/> 22848

HEALTH EDUCATION

Talks were given in the Infant Welfare Clinics to groups of mothers by Health Visitors. Pamphlets and Posters were exhibited in the Infant Welfare Clinics, Dental Clinic and the Health Department.

Illustrated lectures to Food Handlers were given by the Staff during the year.

Members of the Staff of Public Health Inspectors and of Health Visitors undertook to give some lectures in the training course for Nurses at the Royal Infirmary.

9. MENTAL HEALTH

Administration

The Staff employed consisted of the Medical Officer of Health, the Deputy and Assistant Medical Officer of Health (all three of whom are approved for the purposes of the Ascertainment and Certification of Mental Defectives), two part-time Duly Authorised Officers and such services of Health Visitors as were necessary. No Psychiatric Social Workers or Mental Health Workers are employed.

Patients on trial from Mental Hospitals and on leave or licence from Mental Deficiency Hospitals were supervised by the Authorised Officers, Health Visitors or, in special cases, by the Medical Officer of Health. Reports were received from the Mental Hospitals of patients on discharge therefrom.

No duties were delegated to Voluntary Organisations.

Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts

The following numbers of Patients were dealt with:—

1957	Certified		Voluntary		Sect. 20-21		No Action		After Care Visits	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
	7	11	109	86	29	30	7	3	37	46
Totals	18		195		59		10		83	
Discharged ...	4	—	56	60	2	—				
Died	4	5	6	3	2	—				

The Duly Authorised Officers' Report

The number of Voluntary Patients greatly outnumbers other Patients admitted to Mental Hospital, and the majority of Patients admitted on three-day or 14-day Orders now sign 'Voluntary' Forms and continue treatment in hospital.

There were 24 occasions of attempted suicide.

The bed shortage is very acute. The most difficult problem, however, has been finding beds for Aged and Senile Patients. When Aged people are living alone, accommodation has to be obtained through the Mental Health Service.

The Mental Deficiency Acts, 1913-38 :—

(i) Ascertainment of Mental Defectives is carried out by the Medical Officer of Health, the Deputy and Assistant Medical Officer of Health. In borderline cases, the policy, especially with children, has been to give them every opportunity for Education (in special classes if need be) before reaching a final decision on their non-educability. After notification to the Local Health Authority, re-examination is carried out as an additional check. Particularly difficult cases are referred to the Regional Hospital Board's Consultant Psychiatrist who has special experience in such cases.

Statutory and Voluntary Supervision is the work of the Health Visitors, though special cases may be visited by the Medical Officers. The normal period for visits is three-monthly, though it will be appreciated that stable cases may only require visits annually, and difficult cases may require more frequent supervision. Certain of these visits may also be done by the Authorised Officers.

(ii) Guardianship

There were no Mental Defectives under Guardianship in the City of Chester.

(iii) Occupation Centre

The attendances at the Occupation Centre continued to rise and, at the end of 1957, there were 48 pupils on the register. These originated:—

City Cases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	26
Cheshire	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Flintshire	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15

This necessitated the appointment of a Trainee Assistant Supervisor.

The transport of patients to the Centre again was revised and alternative accommodation—to house a rapidly increasing class register—was considered at various points in the City. Eventually, it was confirmed that the best solution was to build a purpose-built Centre, and approach was made to the Ministry therefore.

The gifts of metal cupboards from the Handicapped Children's Society were gratefully acknowledged.

During the summer holiday, the staff of the Centre took those children who were suitable on two day-outings, one to Frodsham and the other to Southport. Unfortunately, not all the pupils at the Centre are suitable for these trips, but every pupil who can possibly come is invited.

At Christmas, a combined Party and Nativity Play was produced by the staff, the cast consisting of the pupils. Much hard work by the staff on these occasions has been greatly appreciated by the guests. Appreciation of the behaviour of the pupils has been expressed by the caterers on the day-outings, and reflects great credit on the staff.

(iv) Other Services—Short Term Care

As a new departure, the Committee decided to give financial help in necessitous cases to parents of Defectives who had to be admitted to private accommodation for Short Term Care. Even with the opening up of Regional Hospital Board Accommodation—New and Old for Short Term Care, there was a gross insufficiency of Hospital beds for these defectives and in some cases private accommodation had to be found.

One defective was assisted under this scheme.

**NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT, 1946
MENTAL DEFICIENCY ACTS, 1913—1938**

Local Health Services

	Under age 16		Aged 16 and over	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
1. Particulars of Cases reported during 1957				
(a) Cases ascertained to be defectives 'subject to be dealt with'	—	—	—	—
Number in which action taken on reports by:				
(1) Local Education Authorities on children				
(i) While at school or liable to attend school	5	3	—	—
(ii) On leaving special schools	—	—	—	1
(iii) On leaving ordinary schools	—	—	—	—
(2) Police or by Courts	—	—	—	—
(3) Other sources	—	—	2	3
(b) Cases reported who were found to be defectives but were not regarded as 'subject to be dealt with' on any ground	—	—	—	—
(c) Cases reported who were not regarded as defectives and are thus excluded from (a) or (b)	—	—	—	—
(d) Cases reported in which action was incomplete at 31st December, 1957, and are thus excluded from (a) or (b)	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	5	3	2	4
2. Disposal of Cases reported during 1957				
(a) Of the Cases ascertained to be defectives 'subject to be dealt with' (i.e., at 1(a)), number				
(i) Placed under Statutory Supervision ...	2	2	—	3
(ii) Placed under Guardianship	—	—	—	—
(iii) Taken to 'Places of Safety'	—	—	—	—
(iv) Admitted to Hospitals	3	1	2	4
(b) Of the Cases not ascertained to be defectives 'subject to be dealt with' (i.e., at 1(b)), number				
(i) Placed under Voluntary Supervision ...	—	—	—	—
(ii) Action unnecessary	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	5	3	2	4
3. Number of Mental Defectives for whom care was arranged by the Local Health Authority under Circular 5/52 during 1957 and admitted to:				
(a) National Health Service hospitals	—	—	—	—
(b) Elsewhere	1	—	—	—
TOTAL	1	—	—	—

4. Total Cases on Authority's Registers at 31/12/57

(i) Under Statutory Supervision	9	11	26	27
(ii) Under Guardianship	—	—	—	—
(iii) In 'Places of Safety'	—	—	—	—
(iv) In Hospitals	5	2	26	18
(v) Under Voluntary Supervision	—	—	10	12
TOTAL	14	13	62	57

5. Number of defectives under Guardianship on 31st December, 1957, who were dealt with under the provisions of Section 8 or 9, Mental Deficiency Act, 1913. (Included in 4(ii))

— — — —

6. Classification of defectives in the Community on 31/12/57 (according to need at that date)

(a) Cases included in 4(i)—(iii) in need of hospital care and reported accordingly to the hospital authority:—

(1) In urgent need of hospital care:—

(i) 'Cot and Chair' Cases	—	—	—	1
(ii) Ambulant Low Grade Cases	2	—	2	1
(iii) Medium Grade Cases	1	—	3	2
(iv) High Grade Cases	—	—	1	—

Total Urgent Cases

3 — 6 4

(2) Not in urgent need of hospital care:—

(i) 'Cot and Chair' Cases	—	—	1	—
(ii) Ambulant Low Grade Cases	1	—	1	1
(iii) Medium Grade Cases	—	—	1	1
(iv) High Grade Cases	—	—	—	1

Total Non-Urgent Cases

1 — 3 3

Total of Urgent and Non-Urgent Cases

4 — 9 7

(b) Of the Cases included in items 4(i), (ii) and (v), number considered suitable for:—

(i) Occupation Centre	6	4	13	23
(ii) Industrial Centre	—	—	5	—
(iii) Home Training	—	—	2	2

TOTAL

6 4 20 25

(c) Of the Cases included in 6(b), number receiving training on 31/12/57:—

(i) In Occupation Centre	4	4	5	11
(ii) In Industrial Centre from a Home Teacher (in groups)	—	—	—	—
(iii) from a Home Teacher at home (not in groups)	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	4	4	5	11

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

Two cases were compulsorily removed during the year.

MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS

(1) Residential Nurseries

The Medical Officers carried out routine examinations of the Children in Kingston House (Children's Department) and of those in the Children's Home, Eaton Park View, on admission, discharge and special occasions.

Both the homes come under the care of the Child Care Committee.

(2) Superannuation Examinations

Staff of all Corporation Departments were examined by the Medical Officers for the purpose of determining their fitness for (a) Employment, (b) Entry into the various Sickness Pay Schemes, (c) Entry into the Corporation Superannuation Scheme.

In the case of Staff associated with School Children, the examinations have included X-Ray of chest (usually done at the Mass Radiography Unit) and for teachers in the Education Department, full reports on Forms 4 R.T.C. and 28 R.Q. were made.

The number of examinations in the year was 465 and for comparison with previous years:—

1952: 204 1953: 338 1954: 412 1955: 431 1956: 484

HEALTH OF CHILDREN

PREVENTION OF BREAK-UP OF FAMILIES

(Ministry of Health Circular 27/54)

The steps taken by the Authority in accordance with this Circular covered a very large proportion of the Part III Services, and reference to them is made, in the main, under the various headings of this Report.

Problem Families were discussed at meetings of the officers concerned, and a closer, earlier liaison resulted between the Health, Children's, Welfare and Housing Departments.

The Health Visitors attended lectures arranged by adjacent Authorities on this subject, and they were encouraged in their social case work. In households where overcrowding, ill-health or marital disharmony threatened, reference was made to the appropriate department or voluntary body, and active follow-up was maintained.

One of the Health Visitors was employed specially for Tuberculosis Visiting. She attended the Chest Clinic weekly, and also reported on the Home Circumstances. Families requiring rehousing because of Tuberculosis were given priority. A special Domestic Help was employed to work in Tuberculosis Households.

To families beset by the spectre of Mental Ill-Health, After-Care visits were made either by Authorised Officers or by Health Visitors on discharge reports received from Mental Hospitals.

Because of their dual role of Health Visitor-School Nurse, the Staff followed up difficult children at home, and any domestic disharmony was brought to light. The children were treated at the Child Guidance Clinic rather than have them sent away to Special Boarding Schools. Close contact was maintained between Family Doctors and School Teachers. There was a great improvement in communication between Nursing Staff and the Family Doctor—both by letter, telephone and also by personal contact. Better co-operation was activated between the Staff and Children's Officer, Probation Officer, Officers of the N.S.P.C.C. and other bodies.

The Domestic Help Staff was increased (as also were the District Nurses) to cope with this new aspect of their work, and with the greater demand on their services. Voluntary bodies in the City were approached

regarding the possibility of setting up a panel of Night Sitters. It is unfortunate that it was not possible to inaugurate this new service, and reliance has still to be placed on good neighbours and some religious bodies.

A Marriage Guidance Clinic was also envisaged, but it was decided not to provide one in the City.

Among the Voluntary Organisations and bodies which have assisted the Department in many ways to keep the family unit together must be mentioned:—

The British Red Cross and St. John's Societies, Women's Voluntary Services, N.S.P.C.C., Chester Council of Social Services, Diocesan Board of Moral Welfare, and the Chester Sick Poor Fund. (This list is not complete.)

Admission to Nursery Schools has often helped to keep the family together and the Nursing Staff has frequently been able to call on other branches of the family to help during night time or over difficult periods.

This branch of our work—the task of keeping the family unit intact—is perhaps one of our most important duties. When family ties are relaxed by changing social circumstances, when economic difficulties appear so insuperable and when international relations are being adjusted to the Atomic Age, we must remember that the basis of all National life, human culture and civilisation is the family.

WATER

The City water supply is drawn from the River Dee and supplied by the Chester Waterworks Company. The water is filtered and chlorinated at the Company's works.

The standard of purity has been maintained during the year, the water being graded 'Class I'.

Bacteriological examinations of the water supply including water from various filter beds have been carried out twice a month. In addition, chemical analyses of water from a consumer's tap have been carried out by the Public Analyst every month, and the following table gives the result of these analyses, which are shown in parts per million of water.

CHEMICAL EXAMINATION OF CITY WATER SUPPLY

Parts per Million	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Total Solid Matter in Solution ...	140.0	160.0	240.0	260.0	300.0	300.0	300.0	160.0	160.0	180.0	180.0	260.0
Nitrogen in Nitrates ...	1.0	1.0	2.0	1.5	1.25	2.0	2.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	2.0
Nitrites ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Chlorine in Chlorides ...	18.0	17.0	26.0	31.0	39.0	52.0	51.0	20.0	18.0	20.0	18.0	39.0
Oxygen absorbed from Permanganate in four hours at 80° F. ...	0.40	0.40	0.44	0.44	0.44	0.68	0.68	0.40	0.80	0.60	0.76	0.72
Free and Saline Ammonia ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Albuminoid Ammonia ...	0.03	0.03	0.04	0.03	0.03	0.05	0.06	0.03	0.06	0.04	0.06	0.05
Lead, Copper, Zinc ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Microscopical Examination of Sediment ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Temporary Hardness ...	45.0	45.0	60.0	90.0	100.0	115.0	105.0	45.0	40.0	60.0	50.0	95.0
Permanent Hardness ...	26.0	38.0	52.0	26.0	36.0	44.0	68.0	23.0	23.0	38.0	35.0	38.0
PH Value ...	6.8	6.9	6.9	7.1	7.2	7.2	7.1	6.9	7.0	7.0	6.9	7.2
Residual Free Chlorine ...	0.03	0.05	0.03	0.04	0.04	0.05	0.04	0.03	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.035

Chief Public Health Inspector's Report

1957

INSPECTION OF AREA

ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE

Complaints received—Dwellings	...	...	...	635
Complaints received—Other Premises	...	...	...	152
Visits in respect of Complaints—Dwellings	...	...	...	1218
Visits in respect of Complaints—Other Premises	...	...	...	192

Dwellings:—

	Inspections		
	First	Sbsqnt.	Total
(a) Notifiable Diseases	45	17	62
(b) Food Poisoning Visits	37	96	133
(c) Defects and Repairs	382	1536	1918
(d) Certificates of Disrepair	78	46	124
(e) Overcrowding	7	3	10
(f) Prospective Corporation Tenants	91	27	118
(g) Vermin	40	20	60
(h) Dustbins	3	11	14
(i) Other purposes	134	108	242
Houses in Proposed Clearance Areas, visits and inspections			766
Common Lodging House, visits			4
Houses let in Lodgings			18
Factories, visits			142
Shops Act, inspections			607
Schools, inspections			16
Smoke Abatement, observations, etc.			69
Complaints of Smoke Nuisances			46
Licensed Premises, inspections			176
Offices, inspections			32
Other Business Premises (excluding Factories)			25
Cinemas and Theatre, inspections			2
Canal Boats, inspections			11
Tents, Vans and Sheds, inspections			7
Rag Flock Premises, visits			4
Pet Shops			13

Brooks and Streams, inspections	...	...	...	...	19
Waste Ground and Common Passages, inspections	...	...	...	...	19
Rats and Mice Destruction, visits	...	...	...	...	4834

Drainage Work:—

(a) No. of premises involved	...	...	...	...	507
(b) Inspections	...	...	...	...	918
(c) Tests applied	...	...	...	...	186
Premises disinfected after infectious diseases	...	...	...	...	12
Premises disinfested for vermin	...	...	...	...	9
Prospective Corporation tenants' houses disinfested for vermin	...	...	...	...	11

FOOD HYGIENE, ETC.

Inspections of Restaurants and Cafes	...	...	...	...	107
Inspections of Hotels (Catering)	...	...	...	...	69
Inspections of Canteens	...	...	...	...	21
Inspections of Dairies, Milk Shops, etc.	...	...	...	...	125
Inspections of General Provision Shops	...	...	...	...	261
Inspections of Butchers' Shops	...	...	...	...	152
Inspections of Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	54
Inspections of Fishmongers	...	...	...	...	31
Inspections of Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	42
Inspections of Ice Cream Premises	...	...	...	...	169
Inspections of Public Market	...	...	...	...	15
Inspections of Fish and Chip Shops	...	...	...	...	28
Inspections of Other Food Premises	...	...	...	...	266

ADMINISTRATION

(a) Number of letters sent re nuisances	...	...	...	...	684
(b) Number of Preliminary Notices served	...	...	...	...	131
(c) Number of Statutory Notices served	...	...	...	...	66
(d) Legal Proceedings in default	...	...	...	...	2

The majority of nuisances are remedied by informal action and the co-operation of those concerned.

SECTION 92 PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936 ABATEMENT OF NUISANCES

Legal Proceedings

Case 1.

Summons withdrawn on completion of work immediately prior to hearing
—Costs 3s. 6d.

Case 2.

Court Order to abate Nuisance—28 days—Costs 11s. 6d.

HOUSING

During the year, 187 houses were dealt with under the Housing Acts, as follows:—

(1) 18 individually unfit houses were closed or demolished by action under Section 17 of the Housing Act, 1957.

(a) Closed

4, Ring-o'-Bells Entry	...	...	...	...	(Undertaking)
5, Canal Side	...	...	...	...	(Undertaking)
1, Clares Court (Oulton Place)	...	...	...	...	(Undertaking)
4, Roberts Place (Castle Street)	...	...	...	...	(Undertaking)
44a, Frodsham Street	...	...	...	...	(Undertaking)
9, Whitehorse Yard	...	...	...	...	(Undertaking)
8, Hamilton Buildings	...	...	...	...	(Undertaking)
3, Evans Place (Upper Northgate Street)	...	...	...	...	(Undertaking)
53, Steven Street	...	...	...	...	(Closing Order)
3, Black Friars	...	...	...	...	(Undertaking)
22, York Street	...	...	...	...	(Undertaking)
15, Back Brook Street	...	...	...	...	(Closing Order)
11, Back Queen Street	...	...	...	...	(Closing Order)
1, Wards Terrace, Hoole	...	...	...	...	(Undertaking)
2, Wards Terrace, Hoole	...	...	...	...	(Undertaking)
2, Queens Place	...	...	...	...	(Undertaking)

(b) Demolished

Stonebridge Cottage (Saughall Road)	...	(Demolition Order)
113, Saughall Road	...	(Demolition Order)

SLUM CLEARANCE

The following areas have been represented and confirmed during the year:—

(a) Areas Represented and Confirmed					No. of Houses
Pitt Street, No. 1 Area	...	...	...	...	63
Gee's Court and Wrench's Court Areas (Tarvin Road)	...	...	...	...	11
Edwards Court, Duke Street Area	...	...	...	...	4
					<hr/> 78
(b) Areas Inspected 1957 and Represented early 1958					
William Street Area	...	...	...	...	62
Trafford Street Area	...	...	...	...	29
					<hr/> 91

RENT ACT, 1957

The following table gives details of applications and granting of Certificates of Disrepair from 1st April, 1957, to 31st March, 1958.

Number of Applications for Certificates	Number Granted	Number Withdrawn
71	68	3

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

Certain provisions of the Clean Air Act, 1956, came into operation on 31st December of that year.

During 1957, a survey of industrial chimneys and boiler plant was commenced and 69 smoke observations carried out.

Forty-six complaints of smoke nuisance were recorded. These concerned 11 factories. Three of these have converted or were in process of conversion to oil-burning by the end of 1957 and consideration was being given to the conversion of some of the others in 1958.

The Public Health Inspectors, who are specially qualified and trained for this purpose, have instructed management and stokers where necessary in the more efficient methods of stoking, plant maintenance and fuel selection, in order to reduce smoke nuisances.

Notwithstanding the large amount of staff time which at present must be devoted to a large slum clearance programme and food hygiene inspection, it is hoped to increase the time available for work under many branches of the Clean Air Act.

As a result of the Public Enquiry held last year, the proposal to erect a 300-foot chimney at the Leadworks was approved. A small number of complaints of smell and fumes emanating from the works were received and investigated during the year, and it is hoped that when the new chimney is completed in 1958, the cause for complaint will be removed.

CANAL BOATS

As in previous years the number of boats using the canal has continued to fall.

Eleven boats only were examined during 1957 and none required the service of complaint notes.

COMMON LODGING HOUSE

There is only one privately-owned Common Lodging House (males only) licensed by the City Council.

Four surprise and routine inspections have been made and several sanitary improvements have been carried out on request and under supervision.

RODENT CONTROL

Under the scheme of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, a consolidated grant of 50 per cent. of the approved net expenditure, incurred during the financial year 1956-57, is made to Local Authorities. Certain conditions relating to organisation, employment methods, staffing and the carrying out of effective procedure have to be complied with to the satisfaction of the Ministry.

Corporation sewers, surface properties and private houses are treated free of cost. Grant aid is not available in respect of expenditure incurred by the treatment of commercial or industrial premises, the costs being fully re-imbursed by the occupiers so that no charge falls on public funds.

Rodent control in Corporation sewers has continued, two 'maintenance' and one 'test bait' treatments being carried out during the year.

The results of these treatments are shown in the following tables:—

Sewer Maintenance Treatment No. 2/56/57.

18th February to 18th March, 1957.

Manholes treated	Prebait takes (1)				Prebait takes (2)				Poison taken				Rats destroyed
	C.	G.	S.	N.	C.	G.	S.	N.	C.	G.	S.	N.	
401	119	68	72	142	104	80	58	159	—	61	152	188	558

Bait base:— Bread mash plus Poison—Arsenic

C—Complete take. G—Good. S—Small. N—No take

Sewer Test Baiting

July, 1957

No. of Manholes tested	Result		
176	C.	Partial	No take
	5	9	162

Test baiting with damp sausage rusk was applied in the areas of the City having modern piped sewers, as from practical experience the old sewers of the City are known to be rat infested.

Sewer Maintenance Treatment No. 1/57/58.

26th August to 26th September, 1957.

Manholes treated	Prebait takes (1)				Prebait takes (2)				Poison taken				Rats destroyed
	C.	G.	S.	N.	C.	G.	S.	N.	C.	G.	S.	N.	
421	113	75	59	174	98	75	59	189	—	36	155	230	657

Bait base:— Sausage rusk plus Poison—Zinc Phosphide.

There is little doubt that effective treatment of the sewers reduces the complaints from surface properties. In built-up areas such infestations are usually traced to defective drains and the complaints are remedied following repairs.

The sewers and Corporation refuse tips remain the major source of infestation in the City. The tip, sewage works and land adjoining are kept under routine observation and received 14 treatments during the year.

The rodent staff (one Foreman and two Operators) are engaged for a total of approximately three months annually in the treatment of sewers, sewage works and refuse tips alone.

4,834 visits were also made by this staff and Public Health Inspectors to surface properties during the financial year ended 31st March, 1958.

Estimated total of vermin destroyed: Rats—4,944; Mice—3,868.

The result of searches, complaints and the services to premises in the City is shown in the following table:—

TYPE OF PROPERTY	NON-AGRICULTURAL			AGRI- CULT- URAL
	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	All Other (including Business Premises)	Total
I.—Total number or Properties in Local Authority's District	125	17606	2963	20694
II.—Number of Properties inspected as a result of:—				
(a) Notification	39	301	93	433
(b) Survey under the Act	22	402	216	640
(c) Otherwise	—	16	6	22
III.—Total Inspections carried out (including re-inspections)	432	3741	670	4834
IV.—Number of Properties inspected (in Section II) found to be infested by:—				
(a) Rats—Major	13	7	11	31
Rats—Minor	20	278	26	324
(b) Mice—Major	16	59	15	90
Mice—Minor	4	104	41	149
V.—Properties in Section IV treated by Local Authority	43	422	79	544
VI.—Total Treatments (including re-treatments)	53	448	89	590
VII.—Notices served under Section 4 of the Act	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
VIII.—Cases of Default	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
IX.—Legal Proceedings	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
X.—'Block' Control Schemes carried out	—	30	23	53

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951

The above mentioned Act has been in operation since 1st November, 1951, and repealed the Rag Flock Acts of 1911 and 1928. Its purpose is to secure the use of clean filling materials in upholstered articles or other articles which are stuffed or lined.

The Act requires the licensing of premises where filling materials are used for upholstering, stuffing or lining of bedding, toys or baby carriages, but unfortunately, excludes premises where these articles are remade or re-conditioned.

Four visits were made to premises within the City and one received a licence, under the Act.

Two samples of Loose Washed Flock (50% wool) were submitted to the Prescribed Analyst for examination and were certified to be in accordance with the standard of cleanliness laid down in the Act.

THE MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS, 1949

The following are premises from which milk is sold within the City:—

Premises registered as Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	5
Purveyors and Shopkeepers with premises in the City	...	...	...	...	...	52
Purveyors with premises outside, retailing in City	...	...	...	...	...	10
TOTAL						67

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) REGULATIONS, 1949

The following licences were issued for the sale of designated milk within the City during the year ended 31st December, 1957:—

(a) Pasteuriser's Licence	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
(b) Dealer's Licences:—							
(i) T.T. Milk	...	...	...	...	...	...	33
(ii) Pasteurised Milk	...	...	...	...	...	...	65
(iii) Sterilized Milk	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
(c) Supplementary Licences:—							
T.T. Milk	...	...	...	...	...	...	3

THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) (SPECIFIED AREAS) ORDER, 1955

Chester became a specified area during 1955.

Milk sold by retail must only be specially designated milk, i.e., pasteurised, sterilized or tuberculin tested.

The sale of undesignated milk is prohibited.

FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS, 1955

The Chief and Deputy Chief Public Health Inspectors have continued to give lectures and demonstrations on the principles of hygiene and the dangers involved in the neglect of personal and kitchen hygiene to staffs of food premises and numerous organisations.

The recording and detailed inspection of food premises was continued during the year.

On initial inspection, the premises were classified according to (a) suitability of premises, (b) type and condition of equipment, (c) methods employed and (d) general standards of hygiene.

Initial inspections for this purpose numbered 40 and re-inspections 406.

Where necessary, the attention of proprietors and management was called by interview and letter to defects, etc., requesting co-operation in order to advance the grading classification of these premises.

Such co-operation has been willingly given, resulting in a marked improvement in the standard without need for statutory action.

The work carried out included:—

- (i) Repairs to walls, ceilings, floors, doors and windows, etc.
- (ii) Painting of walls, ceilings and woodwork.
- (iii) Provision of adequate ventilation and lighting.
- (iv) Removal of refuse, etc., and regular cleaning of premises.
- (v) Personal cleanliness, overalls, etc.
- (vi) Provision of wash basins, sinks, and hot and cold water supply, soap and clean towels.
- (vii) Food storage, accommodation and refrigerators.
- (viii) Provision of sanitary accommodation.

The following table gives the state of classification of food premises inspected and re-inspected to the end of 1957 since commencement of the scheme:—

	Classification on First Inspection		Classification of same premises at end of 1957
Excellent	64	.....	72
Good	242	.....	303
Fair	193	.....	180
Poor	132	.....	90
Bad	30	.....	16
	<hr/>		<hr/>
TOTALS	661		661
	<hr/>		<hr/>

NOTE.—Excellent means first class in all respects, Good means minor defects only, Fair means few small defects in structure, equipment or methods, Poor means below standard generally and Bad means very unsatisfactory.

The 16 premises classified 'bad' were being satisfactorily dealt with early in 1958. Two had closed down by the end of 1957.

The following is a list of the food premises in the City:—

Type	Number	Type	Number
Bakehouses	17	Ice Cream Wholesale Depots	1
Brewery	1	Kiosks	7
Butchers' Shops	72	Licensed Victuallers	107
Cake Shops	21	Wholesale Meat Depots	3
Cheese Factors	2	Mineral Water Manufacturers	2
Dairies	5	Restaurants and Cafés	73
Egg Packing Station	1	School Kitchens, Canteens and	
Fishmongers	18	Meal Centres	30
Fried Fish and Chip Shops ...	30	Slaughterhouses	1
General Stores	22	Sweet Manufacturers	2
Greengrocers	54	Sweet Shops	40
Grocers and Provisions	130	Tripe Shops	1
Hotels	27	Wholesale Grocers	5
Ice Cream Manufacturers	6	Works and Stores Canteens ...	20

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

Premises	Offences	Result of Proceeding
Case 1—Butcher's Shop: Seizure of unsound meat.		
	Food and Drugs Act, 1955	Case dismissed
Case 2—Butcher's Shop: Various contraventions of the		
	Food Hygiene Regs., 1955 ...	Fines totalling £215
Case —Bakery:		
	Various contraventions of the	
	Food Hygiene Regs., 1955 ...	Fines totalling £50

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955—SECTION 16

The following are registered in the City for:—

	Premises	Number of Inspections
(a) The sale, manufacture for sale, or storage of ice cream intended for sale	203	169
(b) The preparation or manufacture of sausages or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food intended for sale	33	40

FOOD POISONING—INVESTIGATIONS

The Public Health Inspectors made 133 investigations and re-visits to suspected cases notified to the Medical Officer of Health, and collected 187 specimens for bacteriological examination in connection with same.

ICE CREAM

Chemical Analysis

The Food Standards (Ice Cream) Order 1953 provides that ice cream must contain at least 5 per cent fat, 10 per cent. sugar and $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. milk solids other than fat. The standard applies to any products (including those supplied in catering establishments) which are sold as 'ice cream' or 'ices', but does not apply to water ices sold as such or to 'ice lollies'.

The fat content of the ten samples analysed is shown in the following table:—

FAT CONTENT PER CENT.

Standard 5 per cent	5 and under 6	6 and under 7	7 and under 8	8 and under 9	9 and under 10	10 and under 11	11 and under 12	12 and over
Number of Samples	—	—	1	1	—	5	2	1

The samples also satisfied the tests for sugar content and milk solids other than fat.

Bacteriological Samples

Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations 1947—51

During the year, 40 samples of ice cream were bacteriologically examined by the Public Health Laboratory Service, Hamilton Square, Birkenhead.

The following table sets out the results:—

	Number of Samples
Grade 1—Satisfactory	39
Grade 4—Unsatisfactory	1
	<hr/>
TOTAL	40
	<hr/>

Subsequent samples taken following the only Grade 4 sample were reported to be satisfactory. No further action was necessary in this case.

There were no samples containing Faecal B. Coli.

All the premises, etc. on which ice cream was manufactured, stored or sold were regularly inspected and the condition of utensils, methods, etc. found to comply with the requirements of the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations.

LICENSED PREMISES

176 visits were made to licensed premises and a comprehensive report submitted to the Licensing Justices. The premises were also inspected regarding their compliance with the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955.

Special attention has been directed to hygiene and the provision of sanitary accommodation. Particular attention has also been paid to the condition of beer cellars, especially in regard to the type and condition of piping from barrel to pump, cleanliness, structural condition, ventilation and drainage of floor and, where necessary, repairs and alterations have been carried out on request.

No complaints were received regarding unclean drinking utensils, etc. but this gives no room for complacency.

The generally high standard of hygiene in licensed premises within the City was maintained.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

The following tables show (1) the samples submitted to the Public Analyst (H. Lowe, Esq., M.Sc., F.R.I.C.) during the year and (2) the administrative action taken in respect of samples certified to be not genuine.

FOOD & DRUGS ACT, 1955

TABLE I. ANALYSES

ARTICLE	Number Examined			Number Adulterated, etc.		
	Formal	Informal	Total	Formal	Informal	Total
Milk	24	47	71	—	1	1
Ice Cream	—	10	10	—	—	—
Ice Lollies	—	4	4	—	—	—
Beer	—	4	4	—	—	—
Whisky	2	—	2	—	—	—
Tea	2	2	4	2	2	4
Butter	—	2	2	—	—	—
Margarine	—	2	2	—	—	—
Pork Sausages	—	2	2	—	—	—
Treacle	—	1	1	—	—	—
Mayonnaise	—	1	1	—	—	—
Olive Oil	—	1	1	—	—	—
Meat Paste	—	1	1	—	—	—
Sage and Onion Stuffing	—	1	1	—	—	—
Jam	—	2	2	—	—	—
Lemon Cheese	—	1	1	—	—	—
Tuna Fillets	—	1	1	—	—	—
Thick Pea Soup	—	1	1	—	—	—
Baking Powder	—	1	1	—	—	—
Shredded Beef Suet	—	1	1	—	—	—
Beecham's Powders	—	1	1	—	—	—
Liver Salt	—	1	1	—	—	—
Cake Mix	—	1	1	—	—	—
Mixed Pickles	—	1	1	—	—	—
Plain Flour	—	1	1	—	—	—
Self Raising Flour	—	1	1	—	—	—
Marmalade	—	1	1	—	—	—
Lemonade	—	1	1	—	—	—
Sweet Cigarettes	—	1	1	—	—	—
Tinned Stewed Steak	—	1	1	—	—	—
Beef Sausages	—	1	1	—	—	—
Fish Paste	—	1	1	—	—	—
White Pepper	—	1	1	—	—	—
Malt Vinegar	—	1	1	—	—	—
Instant Whip	—	1	1	—	—	—
Cooking Fat	—	1	1	—	—	—
Pastry Mix	—	1	1	—	—	—
Mushroom Soup	—	1	1	—	—	—
Rice Milk Pudding	—	1	1	—	—	—
Chocolate Biscuit	—	1	1	—	—	—
Lemon Pie Filling	—	1	1	—	—	—
Christmas Pudding	—	1	1	—	—	—
Coffee and Chicory Essence	—	1	1	—	—	—
Black Treacle	—	1	1	—	—	—
Blancmange Powder	—	1	1	—	—	—
Barley Water	—	1	1	—	—	—
Cake and Pudding Mix	—	1	1	—	—	—
Mixed Spice	—	1	1	—	—	—
Minced Meat	—	1	1	—	—	—
Salt	—	1	1	—	—	—
Mustard	—	1	1	—	—	—
Lemon Flavouring	—	1	1	—	—	—
Tinned Salmon	—	1	1	—	—	—
Sliced White Loaf	—	1	1	—	—	—
Wholemeal Loaf	—	1	1	—	—	—
Eccles Cakes	—	1	1	—	—	—
Dried Peas	—	1	1	—	—	—

FOOD & DRUGS ACT, 1955

TABLE I. ANALYSES—Continued

ARTICLE	Number Examined			Number Adulterated, etc.		
	Formal	Informal	Total	Formal	Informal	Total
Jelly	—	1	1	—	—	—
Kippers	—	2	2	—	—	—
Tinned Grapefruit	—	1	1	—	—	—
Piccalilli	—	1	1	—	—	—
Cheese and Onion Spread	—	1	1	—	—	—
Vanilla Flavouring Essence	—	1	1	—	—	—
Curry Powder	—	1	1	—	—	—
Garden Mint in Vinegar	—	1	1	—	—	—
Epsom Salts	—	1	1	—	—	—
Milk Loaf	—	1	1	—	—	—
Lemons	—	1	1	—	1	1
Cut Mixed Peel	—	1	1	—	—	—
Tomato Sauce	—	1	1	—	—	—
Double Cream	—	1	1	—	—	—
Peanut Butter	—	1	1	—	—	—
Oxtail Soup	—	1	1	—	—	—
Browning	—	1	1	—	—	—
Sliced Mango Chutney	—	1	1	—	—	—
Shortcake Mixture	—	1	1	—	—	—
Breadcrumbs	—	1	1	—	—	—
Fruit Squash	—	1	1	—	—	—
TOTALS	28	144	172	2	4	6

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

TABLE II.

Table showing administrative action taken in regard to samples certified to be not genuine.

Sample No.	Article	Result of Analyses	Action taken
Informal 6	Tea	Contained fragments of iron	Attention of packers and blenders called to results of analyses
Informal 59	Tea	Contained fragments of iron	
Formal 16	Tea	Contained fragments of iron	
Formal 87	Tea	Contained fragments of iron	
Informal 128	Milk	14 per cent. deficient in fat on standard of 4 per cent. for Channel Islands Milk	Formal Sample No. 129 taken and reported up to standard. No further action
Informal 139	Lemons	Sample contained one milligramme (approximately) of Orthophenylphenate in one lemon	Result of analyses reported to Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food

MILK

Chemical Analysis

Total Samples analysed	...	...	...	...	...	71
Number certified 'not genuine'	...	...	...	...	...	1
Samples below standard for fat	...	...	...	...	...	1
Samples below standard for solids not fat	...	...	...	...	...	Nil

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS

Results of the various tests applied to 170 samples of milk submitted for examination are shown in the following table:—

Designation	No. of Samples	Test Applied	Number	
			Passed	Failed
Pasteurised ...	47	Phosphatase Methylene Blue	47	—
			46	1
Certified T.T. ...	86	Methylene Blue Coliform	78	8
			86	—
T.T. Pasteurised	24	Phosphatase Methylene Blue	24	—
			22	2
Sterilized ...	13	Turbidity	13	—

NOTES:—

- (a) The 'Phosphatase Test' denotes efficient pasteurisation.
- (b) The 'Methylene Blue Test' assesses keeping qualities.
- (c) Presence of coliform bacillus indicates faecal contamination.

The attention of the Producers and where necessary the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries was called to the unsatisfactory samples. Subsequent samples passed the appropriate tests.

BIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS

(a) For Tuberculosis

25 samples of T.T. Milk were sent to the Medical Research Laboratory, Birkenhead, for examination for the presence of tuberculosis of bovine origin.

All were certified to be negative.

(b) For *Brucella Abortus*

No of Samples Examined	+	Ring Test		Results		G.P.I. Negative
		++	+++	—Negative	Positive	
25 (T.T. Milk)	2	2	1	20	—	5

The above five Ring Test positive results occurred in four separate dairy herds. Guinea pig inoculation tests are carried out when samples are found to be Ring Test positive, in order to confirm the presence of the brucella.

The Local Authorities of the Areas of source of production in respect of five Ring Test positive cases were notified and took samples at the farms. Subsequently the guinea pig inoculation tests in respect of these cases were certified to be negative.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

This Act, which came into operation on 1st April, 1951, regulates premises on, and conditions under which, pets are housed and sold.

Five premises were licensed under the Act and 13 re-inspections made during the year. All the premises complied with the terms of their licences.

Legislation is necessary to control more effectively the sale of unfit meat in Pet and other such Shops, to ensure that it cannot be used for human food.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933/1954

Fourteen renewal licences were issued to Slaughtermen during the year. No new licences were applied for.

Slaughtering in the City has been carried out at the Public Abattoir.

Animals slaughtered during 1957:—

Cattle ...	...	...	...	...	...	2829
Calves	...	...	...	...	...	519
Sheep	...	...	...	...	...	12224
Pigs ...	...	...	...	...	...	2157
TOTAL						17729

Meat Marketing is carried out at the Abattoir where a Meat Inspector is on duty whilst slaughtering is in progress.

Ante-mortem inspections are made of all animals and notes taken of any abnormalities which might assist in the subsequent post-mortem examinations which are carried out on every animal slaughtered.

The weight of food condemned during the year amounted to:—

	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
Meat and offals	12	1	0	14
Other foods	12	17	0	20
TOTAL	24	18	1	6

All condemned meat is 'dyed green' before removal to an approved processing plant to ensure that it cannot be used for human consumption.

The following tables show (1) percentage of animals affected with disease and (2) details of all food condemned.

TABLE I.
CARCASES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR IN PART

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	2788	41	519	12224	2157
Number inspected	2788	41	519	12224	2157
All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	—	8	2	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	880	13	4	1199	421
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis & Cysticerci	31.56	31.72	2.31	9.82	19.51
Tuberculosis only					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	8	—	—	—	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	205	6	—	—	54
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	7.64	14.63	—	—	2.55
Cysticercosis					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	47	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration ...	47	—	—	—	—
Generalised & totally condemned	1	—	—	—	—

CYSTICERCUS BOVIS

Forty-eight cases were discovered during the year, whilst the following table shows the number of animals affected for a period of eight years.

YEAR							NUMBER OF CASES
1950	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
1951	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
1952	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
1953	...	...	...	...	...	...	27
1954	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
1955	...	...	...	...	...	...	34
1956	...	...	...	...	...	...	54
1957	...	...	...	...	...	...	48
TOTAL							211

All the affected carcasses were placed into deep freeze in accordance with Memo 3/Meat.

TABLE II.
UN SOUND FOOD

Article				lbs.	Reason for Condemnation
BEEF					
8 whole carcasses and offal	...	...	...	5059	Generalised Tuberculosis
1 whole carcase and offal	...	...	...	770	Generalised Cysticercus Bovis
12 quarters	...	...	...	1589	Localised Tuberculosis
1 quarter	...	...	...	120	Extensive Bruising
VEAL					
1 whole carcase and offal	...	...	...	27	Immaturity
2 whole carcasses and offal	...	...	...	81	Umbilical Pyaemia
3 whole carcasses and offal	...	...	...	145	Septicaemia
1 whole carcase and offal	...	...	...	50	Moribund
1 whole carcase and offal	...	...	...	30	Jaundice
PORK					
1 whole carcase and offal	...	...	...	94	Generalised Tuberculosis
MUTTON					
2 whole carcasses and offal	...	...	...	86	Febrility
VISCERA					
...	...	...	...	18955	Localised Tuberculosis, Parasitic and other conditions

UNSOUND FOOD—Contd.

Article	lbs.	Reason for Condemnation
MISCELLANEOUS		
10,728 tins of Fish, Meat, Soup, Vegetables, etc.	27971	Pierced, Blown, etc.
367 tins of Condensed and Evaporated Milk	278	Pierced, Blown, etc.
Tinned Ham	1959	Decomposed
Liquid Egg	56	Decomposed
Dried Egg	28	Decomposed
Sausages	42	Decomposed
Imported Beef	852	Decomposed
Imported Liver	26	Mould
English Beef	92	Decomposed
Chickens	124	Decomposed
Ducks	32	Decomposed
Turkeys	924	Decomposed
Rabbits	60	Decomposed
Margarine	61	Decomposed
Bacon	107	Decomposed
Cheese	6	Decomposed, Mould, etc.
Cornish Pasties	6	Decomposed
Savoury Ducks	6	Decomposed
Artificial Cream	4	Decomposed
Albumen Substitute	32	Decomposed
Macaroon	56	Decomposed
Yeast	11	Decomposed
Chocolate	28	Contaminated
Milk Powder	35	Contaminated
Cake	25	Damaged in transit

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES

Dehydrated Carrots	19	Mould
Raisins	10	Mould

FISH

Cod	304	Decomposed
Haddock	14	Decomposed
Salmon	17	Decomposed
Flukes	60	Decomposed
Mixed Fish Fillets	136	Decomposed
Herrings	14	Decomposed
Kippers	14	Decomposed
Prawns	9	Decomposed
Crabs	152	Decomposed
Lobster	16	Decomposed
Mussels	56	Decomposed

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 AND 1948

PART I OF THE ACT

1. INSPECTIONS for the purpose of provisions as to health made by the Public Health Inspectors during 1957.

Premises	Number on Register	Inspections	Number of	
			Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	70	31	1	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	256	106	4	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	6	5	3	—
TOTAL	332	142	8	—

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars	No. of Cases in which defects were found				No. of Cases in which Prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	1	1	—	1	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	1	1	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences (S.7):					
(a) Insufficient	4	3	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	9	8	—	2	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	1	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (Not including offences relating to Out work)	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	16	13	—	3	—

PART VIII OF THE ACT

OUTWORK

(Sections 110 and 111)

NATURE OF WORK	SECTION 110			SECTION 111		
	(2) No. of outworkers in August list required by Sect. 110(1)(c)	(3) No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	(4) No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	(5) No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	(6) Notices served	(7) Prosecutions
(1) Wearing apparel—Making etc. ...	6	—	—	—	—	—

